

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 550

By Eldridge

A RESOLUTION to recognize the Morristown Hamblen Lions Club on the occasion of its seventy-fifth anniversary.

WHEREAS, the Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization, with more than 1.4 million members in over 48,000 clubs in over 800 districts across more than 200 countries and geographic areas around the world who contribute to their local communities; and

WHEREAS, inspired by their motto, "We Serve," Lions provide assistance to persons who are blind and visually impaired, support our youth, provide disaster relief, and meet humanitarian needs; and

WHEREAS, each club is an integral component in the success of Lions Clubs International, and none more than the Morristown Hamblen Lions Club, which celebrates its seventy-fifth anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, initially chartered in 1940 as the Lions Club of Morristown, the club turned in its charter in 1942, due to many of its members being called into service during World War II; the club was rechartered as the Morristown Lions Club in 1946, at which point its service to the community truly began; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, an agreement was made between the Morristown Lions Club and the Hamblen County Lions Club to merge, the name thus becoming the Morristown Hamblen Lions Club; the resultant club retained the 1946 charter and marked its seventy-fifth anniversary in 2021, though the celebration was delayed until this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, over the seven and one-half decades of its existence, the club has done untold good in the lives of the residents of Hamblen County, taking great pride in serving their friends and neighbors; and

WHEREAS, devoted to the club's mission of supporting those with vision challenges, the Morristown Hamblen Lions Club has contributed to the eye care of thousands of Tennesseans; in 1971, the club led the way toward the establishment of Lions Volunteer Blind Industries, and more recently, the club has taken action at the district level to provide free cataract surgery to uninsured persons, to date having sponsored fifty-one surgeries; and

WHEREAS, the club has also sponsored a Little League Baseball team in Morristown and installed and subsequently restored the Lion water fountain in Fred Miller Park; and

WHEREAS, a standout member of District 12N, the Morristown Hamblen Lions Club has sponsored a total of six new Lions Clubs over the years and has produced four Lions District 12N Governors and too many district officers to mention; and

WHEREAS, through their unwavering dedication and commitment to excellence, the members of the Morristown Hamblen Lions Club have proven themselves to be Tennesseans of the highest order, and it is most fitting that we honor them on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we commend the members and leadership of the Morristown Hamblen Lions Club on the celebration of the club's seventy-fifth anniversary and extend to them our best wishes for every continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.